

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

ASHEVILLE DIVISION

CARYN DEVINS STRICKLAND,) *March 23, 2023,*
) *While the propriety of the*
Plaintiff,) *assignment of judicial officers (District and*
) *circuit) to handle this case has been*
v.) *decided by the Fourth Circuit, the propriety*
) *Civil No. 1:20-cv-00066-WGY*
UNITED STATES, et al.,) *of any initial sealing orders has not. Accordingly,*
) *while the motion to disclose intercircuit*
Defendants.) *assignment records is denied, the plaintiff*
) *may, within 14 days of the date hereof,*
) *renew her motion to compel discovery of any*
) *records within the Western District of North*

MOTION TO DISCLOSE INTERCIRCUIT ASSIGNMENT RECORDS

Caroline evidencing orders or directions to seal
Plaintiff Caryn Devins Strickland respectfully requests that this Court order
any portion of the case filings in this case.
disclosure of all intercircuit assignment records for the district court proceeding in
William B. Young
this case, including the certificates of necessity. Previously, Defendants disclosed
District Judge
the intercircuit assignment records for the selection of the circuit judges only; they
did not produce any records regarding the process whereby the district court judge
was selected. *See Doc. 108*, No. 21-1346 (4th Cir.). Defendants also refused to
provide the district court records in discovery and have objected to their disclosure.

The intercircuit assignment records bear on the fairness and integrity of this proceeding. At the outset, Strickland's entire case was sealed *sua sponte* before a judge was designated and assigned. *See Entry Order Dated Mar. 4, 2020* ("Case sealed at direction of Clerk pending assignment of Judge."); *see also Entry Order Dated Mar. 3, 2020* ("Case assigned to Unassigned Judge as of date of case